

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:
Hsu, et al.

Serial No.: 09/939,323

Confirmation No.: 3877

Filed: August 24, 2001

For: Method for Dishing Reduction
and Feature Passivation in
Polishing Processes

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: Robert M. Kunemund

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37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 1/8, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

1/8/04
Date

Signature

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 2003

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 9, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response extended one-month to expire on January 9, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/5617/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.